Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of Claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A u-nut, comprising:

a) a substrate including a polymer and provided with a flex area, a first substrate segment, and a second substrate segment[,];

b) the first substrate segment and the second substrate segment are located adjacent to the flex area;

c) a retainer located on the first substrate segment;

d) an acceptor located on the second substrate segment;

e) the retainer is provided with a first securing member and a second securing member, wherein the first securing member is provided with a first stem, a first angled surface, and a first coupling surface and the second securing member is provided with a second stem, a second angled surface, and a second coupling surface, wherein the first angled surface and the first coupling surface are located at an end of the first stem and the second angled surface and the second coupling surface are located at an end of the second stem;

f) the acceptor is provided with a first cooperating surface, a second cooperating surface, a first securing surface, and a second securing surface; and

g) the first and second securing members are snap fit within the acceptor.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) A u-nut assembly, comprising:

a) a substrate including a polymer;

b) a first substrate segment, a second substrate segment, and a flex area, wherein the first substrate segment and the second substrate segment are located adjacent to the flex area and the flex area is configured so that the first and second substrate segments are capable of being brought into contact by moving along a predetermined path;

c) a retainer including a first securing member and a second securing member, wherein the first securing member includes a first angled surface and a first coupling surface and the second securing member includes a second angled surface and a second coupling surface, wherein the retainer is located on the first substrate segment;

d) an acceptor located on the second substrate segment including a first cooperating surface, a second cooperating surface, a first securing surface, and a second securing surface, wherein the first and second securing members are snap fit within the acceptor, whereby:

i. the flex area flexing so that the first and second substrate segments are brought into closer proximity;

ii. the flex area flexing so that the first angled surface contacts the first cooperating surface and the second angled surface contacts the second cooperating surface to force the first and second securing members a distance together;

iii. the flex area flexing so that the first and second angled surfaces move beyond the cooperating surfaces;

iv. the flex area flexing so that after the first and second securing members are forced a distance together they move a distance apart;

v. the flex area flexing so that the first coupling surface engages the first securing surface and the second coupling surface engages the second securing surface thereby coupling the acceptor to the retainer; and

e) a fastener configured to tap threads into the acceptor, wherein the fastener exerts a clamping force on at least one of the substrate segments.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 1, further comprising a fastener configured to tap threads into the acceptor.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 1, further comprising an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 1, further comprising:

a) an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket; and

b) a fastener configured to tap threads into the acceptor.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 1, further comprising:

a) an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket;

b) a fastener configured to tap threads into the acceptor; and

c) a plurality of acceptor segments that are included in the acceptor.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 1, wherein the first angled surface is at an angle with respect to an axis of the first stem that measures 45° and the second angled surface is at an angle with respect to an axis of the second stem that measures 45°.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 1, wherein the acceptor includes a plurality of acceptor segments.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 2, wherein the acceptor includes a plurality of acceptor segments.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 2, further comprising:

a) a plurality of acceptor segments that are included in the acceptor; and

b) an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The u-nut according to claim 2, wherein:

a) the first securing member is provided with a first stem and the second securing member is provided with a second stem;

b) the first and second securing members are snap fit within the acceptor.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 2, further comprising an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 11, wherein the first angled surface is at an angle with respect to an axis of the first stem that measures 45° and the second angled surface is at an angle with respect to an axis of the second stem that measures 45°.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A u-nut, comprising:

a)[b)] a substrate including a polymer and provided with a flex area, a first substrate segment, and a second substrate segment[,];

b)[c)] the first substrate segment and the second substrate segment are located adjacent to the flex area;

c)[d)] a retainer located on the first substrate segment;

d)[e)] an acceptor located on the second substrate segment; and

e)[f)] an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket and provided with a first portion that is generally perpendicular to a plane of at least one of the first or second substrate segments and a second portion that is generally parallel to the plane of at least one of the first or second substrate segments.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) The u-nut according to claim 14, wherein:

a)[b)] the retainer is provided with a first securing member and a second securing member, wherein the first securing member is provided with a first stem, a first angled surface, and a first coupling surface and the second securing member is provided with a second stem, a second angled surface, and a second coupling surface;

b)[c)] the acceptor is provided with a first cooperating surface, a second cooperating surface, a first securing surface, and a second securing surface; and

c)[d)] the first and second securing members are snap fit within the acceptor

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The u-nut of claim 15, wherein the first and second securing members are snap fit within the acceptor, whereby:

a)[b)] the flex area flexing so that the first and second substrate segments are brought into closer proximity;

b)[c)] the flex area flexing so that the first angled surface contacts the first cooperating surface and the second angled surface contacts the second cooperating surface to force the first and second securing members a distance together;

c)[d)] the flex area flexing so that the first and second angled surfaces move beyond the cooperating surfaces;

d)[e)] the flex area flexing so that after the first and second securing members are forced a distance together they move a distance apart; and

e)[f)] the flex area flexing so that the first coupling surface engages the first securing surface and the second coupling surface engages the second securing surface thereby coupling the acceptor to the retainer.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The u-nut according to claim 15, wherein the first angled surface is at an angle with respect to an axis of the first stem that measures 45° and the second angled surface is at an angle with respect to an axis of the second stem that measures 45°.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The u-nut according to claim 1, wherein the first and second securing members are snap fit within the acceptor, whereby:

a)[b)] the flex area flexing so that the first and second substrate segments are brought into closer proximity;

b)[c)] the flex area flexing so that the first angled surface contacts the first cooperating surface and the second angled surface contacts the second cooperating surface to force the first and second securing members a distance together;

c)[d)] the flex area flexing so that the first and second angled surfaces move beyond the cooperating surfaces;

d)[e)] the flex area flexing so that after the first and second securing members are forced a distance together they move a distance apart; and

e)[f)] the flex area flexing so that the first coupling surface engages the first securing surface and the second coupling surface engages the second securing surface thereby coupling the acceptor to the retainer.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The u-nut of claim 1, further comprising an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket and provided with a first portion that is generally perpendicular to a plane of at least one of the first or second substrate segments and a second portion that is generally parallel to the plane of at least one of the first or second substrate segments.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) The u-nut of claim 2, further comprising an installation member located on an end of the substrate that is configured to rest upon an edge of a bracket and provided with a first portion that is generally perpendicular to a plane of at least one of the first or second substrate segments and a second portion that is generally parallel to the plane of at least one of the first or second substrate segments.